

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Barton, *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/552,571 Group Art Unit No.: 1633

Filed: 11 October 2005 Examiner: Long, Scott

For: NEW PROCESS FOR PREPARING CLAVAMS, E.G., CLAVULANIC ACID

Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION**  
**UNDER 35 U.S.C. §121**

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request consideration of this response submitted in reply to the restriction requirement dated 31 May 2007. A one-month (30 day) period was set for response. The Applicants hereby petition for a one-month extension of time and authorize the charge of accompanying fees for a one-month extension required by this paper to Deposit Account No 19-2570. Please charge any requisite fees or reimburse any overcharge relating to this amendment and response to Deposit Account No. 19-2570

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Claims 1-20 have been made the subject of a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §§ 121 between the inventions of:

Group I, claims 1-2, drawn to a recombinant *S. clavuligerus* microorganism comprising specific nucleic acid sequences selected from the group consisting of those detailed in claim 1, a-d and claim 2, a-b.

Group II, claims 3-8 and 13-15, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid; vector comprising said nucleic acid; recombinant *S. clavuligerus* microorganism comprising said vector which comprises said isolated nucleic acid.

Group III, claims 9-12 and 16-20, drawn to methods for improving clavulanic acid production in a microorganism.

In addition, the Examiner alleges that a single nucleic acid sequence must be elected for Claims 1-6.